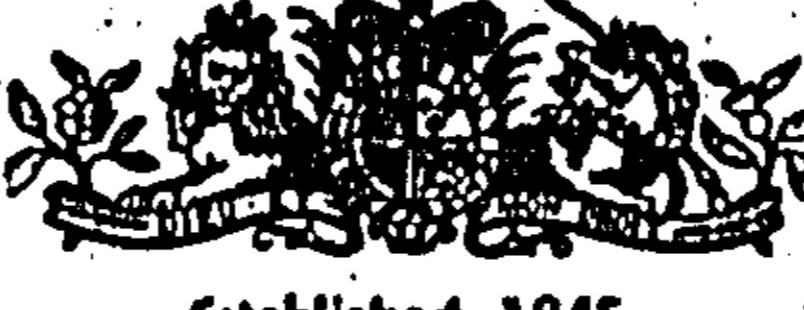


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# Pacific Pact Hopes Acheson's Statement

Washington, Feb. 21. The Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, said today the United States is holding informal talks with friendly governments on the possibility of joint defence arrangements in the Pacific.

In reporting this to a news conference, he said "aggression and threats of aggression" in Korea and other parts of the Far East, give the area more than its share of the danger spots.

Mr Acheson, in answer to questions, said the American government is very sympathetic to a co-operative aid programme now being worked out by Southeast Asian nations at Colombo, Ceylon. It will do its best to fit American aid programmes in the area into any overall pattern which results from these talks.

## VITALLY CONCERNED

In a statement discussing a possible Pacific pact, Mr Acheson said he expects current informal talks with nations in the area "will continue and that many proposals for increased co-operation will be considered."

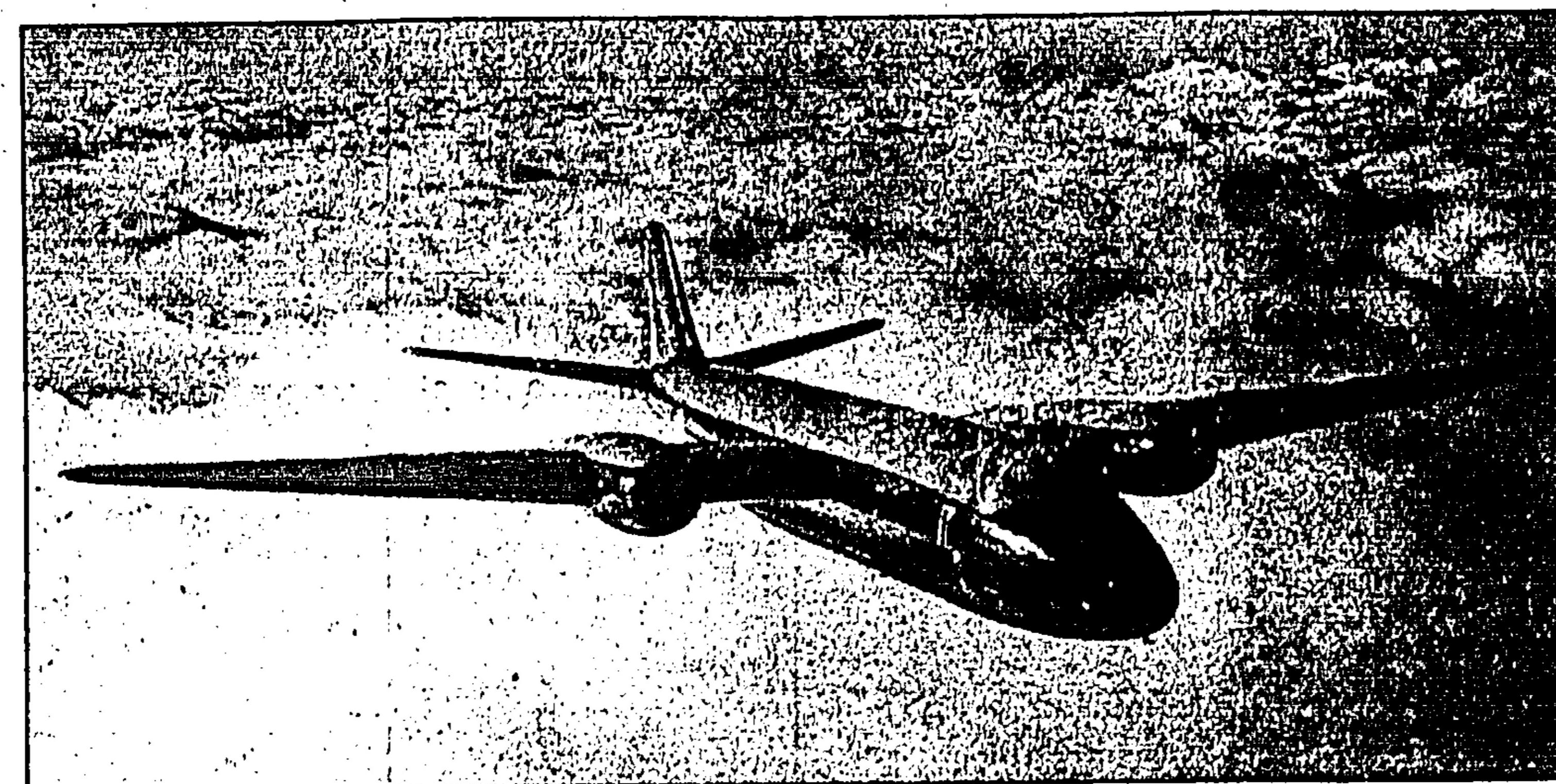
Mr Acheson did not say who was conducting the talks or where they are being held. However, Mr John Foster Dulles, his special advisor, is now in New Zealand, and has been talking about a possible defence pact in a tour of the Pacific.

Mr Acheson's statement said:

"It is impossible at this time to say what plans or proposals can be agreed upon or whether in fact, any proposal will find ultimate general acceptance."

He emphasised, however, the United States is "vitally concerned" in the security of the Pacific, and added:

"Whatever method can be found, our objectives and those of our friends remain the same—sound, secure development of the nations of the Pacific area, free from fear of aggression and the threat of encirclement on their sovereignty and independence."—Associated Press.



## Experiment Failed

Philadelphia, Feb. 21. A woman whose blood stream was channelled into a kidney taken from the body of a traffic accident victim, died here on Wednesday eight hours after the unprecedented experiment to purify her blood and save her life.

The ill-fated experiment failed shortly after noon.

The kidney was removed from the body of Wayne H. Deveny, 30, of York, Pa., who was killed before 4 p.m.

Less than an hour later, the blood of the woman patient, identified by hospital doctors as Mrs Richard Irvine, 32, of Philadelphia, was flowing through the borrowed kidney.

Doctors said the auxiliary kidney would have been effective had she lived until her bloodstream was rid of impurities and her own kidneys able to function normally again.

—Associated Press.

## Bus Passengers Burned

Tokyo, Feb. 21. Reels of motion picture film carried by a passenger burst into flames in a motor bus in Oba village, in Ibaraki Prefecture today, inflicting burns on 25 passengers.

A cigarette held close to the bundle of films was believed to have caused the accident.—Reuter.

## The Plane That Did It

## British Jet Bomber Establishes Record

Gander, Newfoundland, Feb. 21. A twin-jet British Canberra bomber, racing the sun across the Atlantic, streaked to a landing here at 1.55 p.m., local time (5.25 p.m. GMT, or 1.25 a.m. Hongkong time), completing a 2,000-mile flight in four hours and 40 minutes.

It was the fastest crossing of the Atlantic in history.

The jet bomber lost its Britain-to-Canada race with the sun. It missed the sun's time by 70 minutes, but it was a history-making flight in several respects.

It was the first time the Atlantic has been flown by a jet plane of any type without refuelling en route.

It took the sun approximately three and a half hours to travel the same distance. (There is three and a half hours between GMT and Newfoundland time).

Members of the crew had little to say after landing except: "Lead us to the coffee."

The pilot, Squadron Leader A. E. Callard, said he planned an overnight stay at Gander for a maintenance check.

Plans are to take the plane to Andrews Field, near Washington.

Later it will be studied by United States technicians as part of the armaments exchange of information between the United States, Britain and Canada.

CREW CONGRATULATED

After the landing in Gander, the British Air Secretary, Mr Arthur Henderson, messaged

to the crew: "Well done, boys. Good luck on your return."

No details of the new clothing were given.—Associated Press.

## Latest ECA Allocations

Washington, Feb. 21. The Economic Co-operation Administration has allocated Formosa \$1,500,000 for United States and Canadian ammonium phosphate; Indo-China \$344,000 for Indian textile products; United States industrial chemicals and scientific and professional instruments and apparatus, and supplies from Japan, Hongkong, Indonesia, Burma, Thailand, Formosa, the Philippines and India.—Associated Press.

—Associated Press.

## Prison For Ex-British Officer

Graz, Feb. 21. Neville MacVey Napier, sentenced to nine years imprisonment Wednesday for collecting and selling military information to a Czechoslovak spy, will spend his gaol term in an Austrian cell.

The Canberra's time, however, will not be recognised by international aviation authorities as an official record.

The Royal Aero Club, which

controls arrangements for

attempts on air records in Britain,

was not asked to send official

observers for the Canberra's flight.

Air Ministry officials disclosed that the plane's crew wore new experimental clothing on the flight. If the clothing proved satisfactory during this test, it will become standard equipment for RAF jet fighters, they added.

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